

### Los Angeles County Probation COVID-19 Weekly Update November 13, 2020

#### Efforts to address the medically fragile population in detention facilities

The Probation Department currently does not have any youth with compromised immune systems or other medical conditions placing them at higher risk for COVID-19 infection. Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS) has identified 11 youth in care with underlying medical conditions which might exacerbate the impact of such infection. There are 7 youth in the juvenile halls and 4 in the camps. If infection were to occur JCHS and the Probation Department will be working together on individualized plans to address their care.

# Efforts to further reduce population in adult and juvenile detention facilities while balancing public safety

The Probation Department's juvenile detention population has declined during the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 2, 2020, the juvenile detention population was 840. On November 12, 2020, the population was 522. The population in juvenile halls was 322 and the population in camps was 190.

The Probation Department continues to receive new clients for AB109 supervision due to early prison release dates from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). There have been 2,658 early releases from April 2020 through October 31, 2020.

# Efforts to provide resources to support those released from jails, and juvenile detention facilities in order to prevent homelessness

The Probation Department continues to make efforts to reduce the population in juvenile halls by releasing youth to parents, guardians, and suitable placements when appropriate.

The AB109 supervision program has encountered a reduction in CDCR early releases in recent months.

### Plans for adequate quarantining and isolation of individuals in custody

The Probation Department continues to utilize the plans for quarantine and isolation in accordance with the Public Health Order for the control of COVID-19. All isolations and quarantines in detention facilities continue to occur in partnership with JCHS personnel. Upon entry to probation facilities, all youth will continue to be tested for COVID-19 and remain in isolation until results are received. As of November 12, 2020, 84 youth had tested positive for COVID-19. There are 55 youth who tested positive at admission. 29 youth have tested positive for COVID-19 while in care: 9 at Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC), 8 from BJNJH, 5 at Camp Glenn Rockey, 4 at Central Juvenile Hall, and 3 at Camp Afflerbaugh.

As of November 12, 2020, there are 93 youth in quarantine due to possible exposure to COVID-19. There are 31 youth at CJH, 1 at BJNJH, 31 at CGR, and 30 at DKC due to possible exposure.

# Washing of hands, hygiene, additional cleaning supplies and custodial services

The Probation Department has continued to utilize the hygiene and cleaning plans outlined in the first weekly update. The Probation Department continues to receive additional supplies to assist with cleaning and enhanced safety measures. The field offices have continued to establish safety plans and ordered equipment necessary for public re-opening.

### Screening of youth, focus on healthy staffing in the detention facilities

The Probation Department continues to screen newly detained youth upon their arrival to juvenile hall. They are separated from other youth until negative COVID-19 results are received. Employees continue to be screened prior to their entrance into detention facilities. Youth who have tested positive remain in medical isolation and those youth who potentially have been exposed have been quarantined and continue to be monitored by JCHS.

### Additions include the following:

- As of November 12, 2020, there have been 2,219 youth tested for COVID-19 since testing was initiated on May 3, 2020.
- There have been 1,331 youth tested upon admission in juvenile halls, 586 tested from juvenile hall's general population, and 302 tested from the camp population.

- As of November 12, 2020, 205 Probation Department employees have tested positive for COVID-19.
- Of this 205, 99 employees work in detention facilities and 106 work in field offices, which includes 3 contract employees.

## Plan for virtual contact with visitation, keeping families connected and increased communication

The Probation Department continues to utilize virtual platforms for keeping families connected when in-person visits are not available. 101 youth in juvenile halls and 33 youth in camps received in-person visits for the weekend of November 7 and November 8, 2020.

#### **Additional Information**

As of November 12, 2020, 271 youth have been placed in STRTPs, 211 of whom are in California, 28 of whom are in California with Resource Families, and 32 of whom are placed in STRTP's out of California. As of November 12, there are 16 youth in quarantine. 11 of whom are in-state STRTP and 5 of whom are out of state. In addition, there are 2 youths who have tested positive for COVID-19 in out-of-state in Nevada. The Nevada Public Health Department is monitoring the two positive cases.

#### **Communication with the Public**

For information or services, clients and members of the community may call the juvenile facilities. For general questions, please contact the Probation Information Center at 866-931-2222 Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### **Future Updates**

The care of youth in Probation facilities is a joint effort between the L.A. County Probation Department, Juvenile Court Health Services, Department of Mental Health and the Los Angeles County Office of Education. During the COVID-19 crisis, these agencies have collaborated to create an environment of safety and stability for the youth under their care.

We are pleased that the situation in our juvenile facilities has remained largely stable during the COVID crisis and this creates an opportunity to respond to your needs for additional information about the situation. Accordingly, we invite questions related to the County's response to COVID-19 in its juvenile probation facilities or topics you would like to see addressed in future updates. Please email any questions to <a href="mailto:COVIDquestions@probation.lacounty.gov">COVIDquestions@probation.lacounty.gov</a> and we will select questions and provide responses in future weekly updates. Please note that we cannot discuss the circumstances of any individual youth assigned to probation facilities or any pending litigation.

To view previous Probation COVID-19 updates, please visit <a href="https://probation.lacounty.gov/coronavirus">https://probation.lacounty.gov/coronavirus</a>



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